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# Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Thursday, December 5, 2019 1:30 p.m.  
Harrigan Centennial Hall

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**Commission Members:** Charlie Woodcock, Loyd Platson, Doug Osborne,  
Jeff Arndt, Vera Gibson, Holly Marban, Denise Ewing  
Dr. Richard Wein (Assembly Liaison)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Platson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Charlie Woodcock, Doug Osborne, Jeff Arndt, Vera Gibson (arrived at 1:06 p.m.), Holly Marban

Commissioners Absent: Loyd Platson (excused)

Assembly Liaison: Richard Wein

Others in attendance: Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw

**III. AGENDA CHANGES**

None.

**IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. November 7, 2019**

**M – Osborne / S – Arndt moved to approve the November 7, 2019 minutes as written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

**VI. REPORTS**

Chair – Woodcock stated he had been out of town, but that he was working on a prize for the teen center.

Commissioners – Osborne reported that a mountain biking group would be heard at the Assembly meeting of December 23<sup>rd</sup> for a path off the Cross Trail. He told of a December 12<sup>th</sup> community event to determine what to do with the prize money from the RWJF. Ewing reported on the first Southeast Alaska vaping incident. She told of brochures she would be distributing and of services of the Public Health Center. Arndt stated he had heard of Sitkans working toward a for-profit composting business. Marban attended the early childhood coalition meeting and reported on the top priorities of it. She told of a diabetes self-management course and health and wellness coaching she would be doing.

City Staff – None.

Assembly Liaison – Wein stated there was lots going on in the city and would be happy to answer any questions. He updated the commission on the GPIIP meeting regarding the haul out, the budget with regards to priorities, needs, and concerns.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**B. Affordability**

Marban stated that there is a private entity in Juneau doing a large-scale composting. She noted it required a lot of manual labor and one person to run it. Arndt clarified that it cost customers \$25 a month to get the compost picked up. Osborne wondered about a

resolution of support for a private entity doing the composting business. Wein felt it needed to be a municipal solution not a private entity so that it could be community wide. He thought there was city land that could be used. Ewing brought up the idea of involving future generations through the School District, possibly as an elective class. Osborne thought to craft a resolution of support to the Assembly to prioritize revamping the solid waste plan. Marban would report back at the next regular meeting her findings on the Juneau composting business.

**C. Substance abuse especially regarding binge drinking in youth**

Woodcock gave background, reminding Commissioner's that at the last meeting, Platson presented data from survey. Osborne thought to tie this idea in with the HOPE Coalition. Woodcock wondered how many stores in Sitka sold vaping products. Wein brought up the idea that stores could choose not to sell those products and felt it could be done without legislation. Osborne thought to begin with the Coalition, involve SEARHC, make a list of who holds licenses to sell tobacco to send a letter to or visit with the possibility on getting the businesses to not sell vaping products. Arndt wondered the viability of asking businesses to not sell the products. Marban noted that Juneau had been working toward a flavor ban.

**D. Support creation of a collective impact board**

This item would be discussed at the next regular meeting.

**E. Three foot bike clearance**

Osborne shared his first draft of the safe streets documents. He stated he would host the diversion program by having quarterly classes since he is trained by the League of American Cyclists; he would like to increase fines; and overall try to get better cycling behaviors. Wein suggested to send this through the Police and Fire Commission as well. Osborne noted that there should be accountability no matter the age. He stated on the motorists' side of it would be an ordinance requiring 3 feet before passing a cyclist; a prohibition of nuisance exhibition of motor vehicle exhaust and fines associated with that; additional penalties for being at fault of an accident. He thought this would go through this commission, the Police and Fire Commission, and then on to the Assembly.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**F. Next meeting was scheduled for January 9, 2020 at 1:30 p.m., Harrigan Centennial Hall**

**M - Marban moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.**

Attest:  
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk